

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Nicholson-Stanton Farm Inventory Number: K-397
Address: 9505 Flatland Road City: Chestertown Zip Code: 21620
County: Kent USGS Topographic Map: Chestertown
Owner: Carter Giles Stanton Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 37 Tax Map Number: 3 Tax Account ID Number: 017281
Project: Chestertown Emergency Services Tower (Site II) Agency: DBM
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☐ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP Form

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Tucked behind mature trees and at the end of a winding gravel drive is a Vernacular Victorian frame farmhouse known as the Nicholson-Stanton House. Constructed by Robert S. Nicholson in 1898, the house is in remarkable condition.¹ The house is oriented facing Flatland Road and is surrounded by agricultural fields and other farm properties along Mary Morris Road and Flatland Road.

This, L-plan, cross-gable house is typical of an asymmetrical Queen Anne house of the period. The main portion of the house is three bays long by two bays wide with a four-bay long ell extending back (east) from the facade. The gable end of the ell, which is projected forward from the main part of the house, creates a front gable on the facade. The house is three stories tall, including the attic level.

The main part of the house has a side gabled steeply-pitched roof with an intersecting, steeply-pitched cross-gable clad with fish-scale shingles and detailed with an arched, sash attic window. The roof, covered in modern, composite asphalt shingles, creates shallow eaves over the house. The cornice is finished with an ogee molding. A corbeled brick chimney extends from the northeastern end of the main section, and a similar, internal corbeled brick chimney projects from the eastern end of the ell. The roofline of the main house intersects at the same level with the roof of the ell portion. Two equally-spaced gabled dormer

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: Good example of type and period in region.

Andrew Levin

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

11/09/04
Date

Bluntz

Reviewer, NR Program

12/1/04

Date

200403073

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

K-397

windows project from both slopes of the ell roofline. Similar to the cross-gable, the gable end of the ell also hosts an arched window and fish scale shingles under the slightly projected eaves of the gable roof. A substantial bay window extends two stories of the main portion of the house along the southeastern gable end.

The entire house is clad with five-inch beveled, wood siding boards and is finished with vertical corner boards.

A three bay, shed-roofed porch fills in the space between the main house portion and the projected ell on the facade. A ballastrade, turned posts, and ornamental brackets detail the screened-in front porch. A similar three-bay porch, though not screened in, is found on the southeastern side of the ell under three equally-spaced second story windows.

The fenestration on the facade under the cross-gable consists of three equally-spaced, two-over-two sash windows flanked with louvered shutters. The front door is positioned under the third window closest to the projected ell.

Two windows, similar to those on the main portion of the house, are on the second and first level of the ell façade. The fenestration on the south and north (long sides) of the ell consist of three equally-spaced windows on the second levels. A door, close to the intersection of the main house and the ell, is adjacent to two equally-spaced windows on the lower level. The east side of the house has only two, small one-over-one sash windows on the attic level.

Two original frame barns remain on the property, as well as a metal silo (not original). An additional small decorative concrete masonry unit structure is located near barns behind the house.

Overall, the house is in good condition. The rural setting has not been compromised and the house maintains features unique to Victorian houses of the time. The house is a good example of a Vernacular Victorian house featuring crafted wood features such as brackets, fish-scale shingles, detailed moldings and ornamental windows typical of the style. The house is recommended as eligible for the NRHP under Criteria C.

Prepared by: Kathryn St. Clair

Date Prepared: September 14, 2004

ⁱ Fritz, Martha. Maryland Historical Trust, Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey, K-397 Nicholson Farm



MIHP#K397

1/4

Nicholson Farm

Rent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair

7/20/04

MD SHPO - NEG.

View of the house facade (west side).



MIHP # K-397

2/4

Nicholson Farm

Kent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair

7/20/04

MD SHPO - Neg

View of the facade and north side of the house.



3/4

MIHP #K-397

Nicholson Farm

Kent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair

7/20/04

MD SHDO-NEG

View of the south side of the house.



4/4

MHP # K-397

Nicholson Farm

Kent Co., MD

Kathryn St. Clair

7/20/04

MD SH PO-NEG.

View of the outbuildings on the property located
East of the house

NICHOLSON FARM (K-397)
Chestertown, Maryland
(1898)

The Nicholson-Stanton House is a large, rambling frame structure that was constructed in 1898 by Robert S. Nicholson, one of the original directors of the Kent County Railroad. The parlour has a remarkable pressed tin ceiling and doors with fine painted burl graining.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

NICHOLSON FARM

AND/OR COMMON

Stanton-Nicholson Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side Flatland Road (Rt. 514) one
mile north of intersection with Route 20

1st

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland 21620

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Estate of Anna C. Stanton, c/o Giles Stanton Telephone #: 301-778-1864

STREET & NUMBER

Flatland Road

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21620**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #: WHG 19

Folio #: 336

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland 21620

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-397

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nicholson-Stanton House is a very large, rambling frame structure that was constructed by Robert G. Nicholson about 1898 to replace an earlier house which had burned.

In plan the house is really a cross-gable building which has a two by three bay extension on the north west gable of the main house. The gable end of this extension projects forward one bay and the resulting "L" is filled in with a three-bay long entrance porch.

There is also a generous two-story bay window on the southeast gable. The main house is 2½ stories high, but the roof has no dormers, being lit only by large round-headed, 2 over 2 sash windows in the end and central gables.

Behind the main house is a four bay long ell. Two and a half stories tall, the gable roof of this wing has two dormers in each slope. These dormers have overhanging eaves and 2 over 2 sash.

The lower two stories of the house are covered with plain, beveled 5" siding finished against 4" cornerboards. The gables of the main house are filled with imbricated shingles. The roof is covered with early asbestos shingles painted reddish brown.

Large plain brick chimneys rise at both sides of the central hall at the ridge of the main house roof and in the end gable of the wing.

The windows are regularly spaced throughout the building giving the structure a sense of symmetry and order in spite of its asymmetrical massing. Two over two sash are used in both the main house and wing; trim and sills are plain and project very slightly from the wall surface, but the addition of a Greek ogee and bevel molding at the upper edge of the lintel gives the impression of an architrave.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1898

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Robert G. Nicholson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nicholson-Stanton House is significant for its architecture and for its association with Robert G. Nicholson, an entrepreneur of the late 19th century. Nearly intact, the building is an outstanding example of the taste and life style of a prosperous and progressive Victorian businessman in Kent County.

Mr. Nicholson was involved in the raising, storage, and shipping of fruit, an important agricultural commodity herein the decades after the Civil War. In addition to extensive land holdings, he had an ice house in Chestertown. This farm was the site of his orchards. In the late 1860's and 1870's, Mr. Nicholson was a director of the Kent County Railroad and it has been suggested that Nicholson Station, a projected railroad stop near Worton, was named for him.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson. An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne (sic) Counties, Md., (Philadelphia: 27 South Sixth Street, 1877.)

Hayman, John C., Rails Along the Chesapeake, (Salisbury, Md.: Marvadel Publishers, 1979)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland 21620

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

The main entrance of this house has a pair of entry doors. Each door has two panels with bolelection moldings on the exterior and four panels on the interior. These interior panels are arranged with two long panels above the lock rail and two small panels below. The sidelights have three panes with red-yellow-red glass and panels to match the door panel beneath. The transom light has two blue panes above the side lights and a wide central pane of red glass with the name "R.G. Nicholson" etched into it.

The front porch of the Nicholson-Stanton House has a flat hipped roof, a cyma recta crown molding at the cornice, and four turned posts. Decorative bracketts are very large, but flat and wide in appearance. There is evidence of reddish brown or brownish-red "picking out" on each. The balastrade is made of turned balusters. The side porch is similiarly detailed except the posts are chamfered.

Like many farmhouses of the late 19th century, the side porch is divided in half by a lattice screen which separates the porch, functionally, into two portions. One portion provides access to the side entrance and the other to the kitchen.

Interior woodwork and stairs of this building are nearly in their original condition. The trim illustrated below is used with turned corner blocks and is stained and varnished. The switch-back stair, also varnished, is open to the upper story and rises around an open well. It has foliated step bracketts, simple turned balusters, a bold molded handrail, and round newels with block and ball tops. The newel and handrail are walnut; the balusters are oak.

Interior doors have four raised panels with burl graining and brass box locks with knobs which have cast geometric designs. Original mantles are slate with a black and brown marbelizing.

The southeast room on the first floor is a remarkable example of late Victorian interior design. The ceiling is covered with tin in a small square panel design; the tin cornice is about 15" deep with a Greek key design. The room is surrounded by verticle board wainscoating with a reeded chairrail. Unfortunately the mantle in this room has been removed. It was slate and resembled those in the other rooms of the house.

Floors throughout the house are random yellow pine ranging in width from 4" - 6".

Behind the house is a long gable-roofed shed and two gable roofed barns. There is a small three-bay, gable roofed tenant house nearby.

Chain of Title

NICHOLSON-STANTON HOUSE (K-397)
Chestertown, Maryland

Land Records of
Kent County

Transaction

WHG 19
336

TO: Anna C. Stanton
FROM: Bessie M. Nicholson
DATE: June 28, 1951

SB 11
261

No previous reference
Nov. 17, 1888

JTD 12
305

Source of preceeding reference

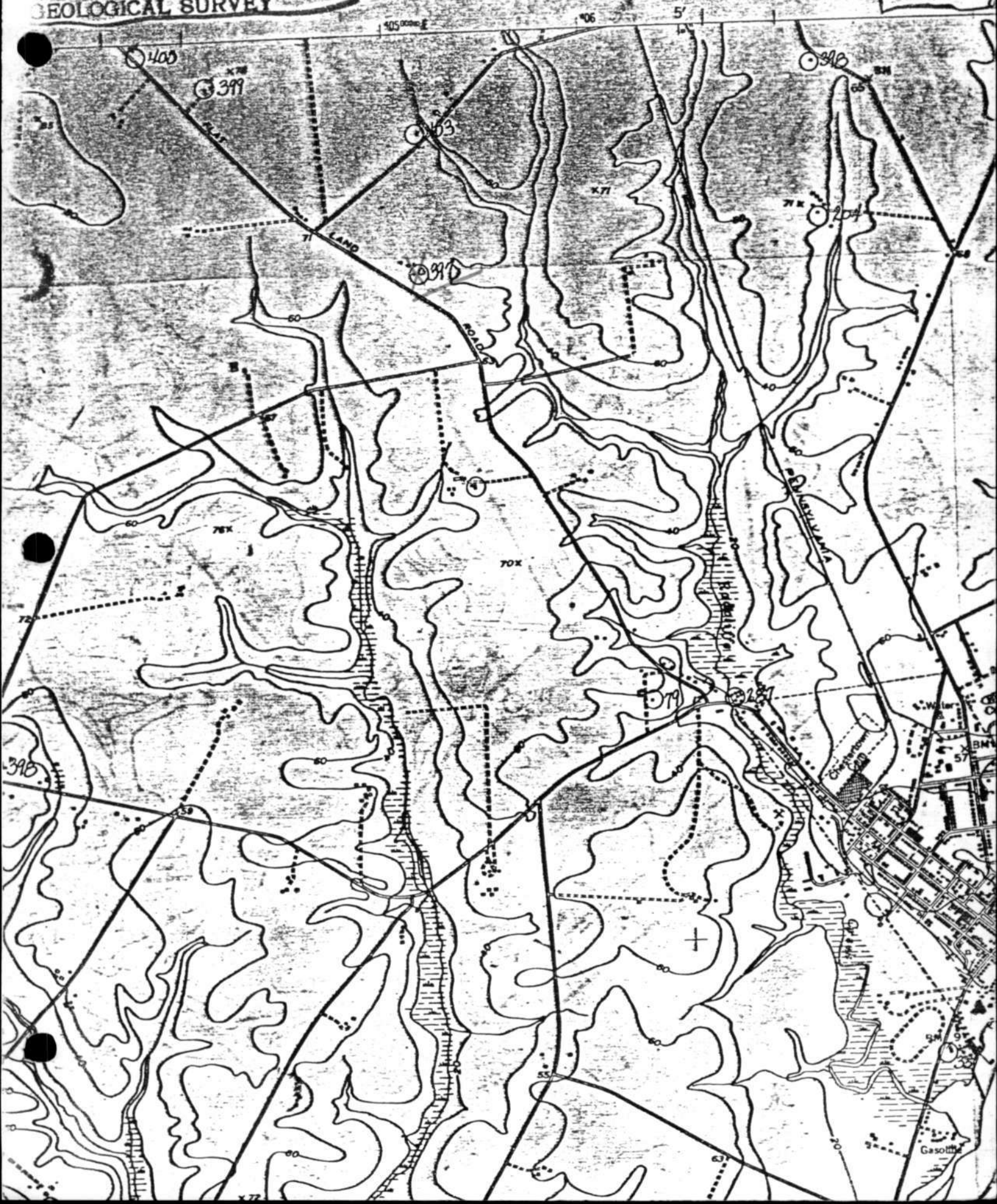
SB 2
416

TO: Robert G. Nicholson
FROM: Wilbur Eliason & wife
DATE: October 18, 1881

Farm came into the Nicholson family at this time. Evidently they built a house soon after purchasing the 215 + acres. There was no house on the site in 1877.

K-397

UNIT
DEPARTMENT
CORPS





K-397

Nicholson-Stanton House

View from South

Chester town

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

2/1980

J. Tyler Campbell

FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JAN 15 1980